



Montgomery County Council

For Immediate Release

May 20, 2004

FOR INFORMATION: Justina Ferber 240-777-7938

APPLICANTS SOUGHT FOR BOARD OF APPEALS
DEADLINE 5:00 P.M., September 1, 2004

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The Montgomery County Council is seeking applicants for a four-year term on the County Board of Appeals. The term of Donald Spence (Democrat) will expire in September 2004. Mr. Spence also serves as Chairman of the Board and has indicated that he will **not** apply for reappointment. The law provides that the Council may designate a member of the Board for the position of Chairman. The Council will select a new Chairman in conjunction with this appointment process.

Duties of the Board of Appeals are: (1) hear and decide most applications for special exceptions as provided in the Zoning Ordinance, (2) hear and decide requests for variances from development standards contained in the Zoning Ordinance, and (3) hear appeals from certain administrative decisions rendered by County Government agencies.

The Board normally holds weekly hearings all day Wednesday and worksessions every other week. If necessary to accommodate an extended caseload or continued hearings, the Board schedules hearings on other weekdays. Members are expected to prepare for the hearings by reading the cases to be heard and to share the workload of drafting and editing opinions or to follow-up on investigations on specific cases. Members work approximately 15-25 hours a week.

Members of the Board receive \$12,999.84 annually, with the Chairman receiving \$18,615.38. Salaries are adjusted annually each December to reflect 50 percent of the change in the Washington Area Consumer Price Index.

The principal jurisdiction of the Board of Appeals (concerning special exceptions and variances under the Zoning Ordinance) does not include the municipalities of Brookeville, Poolesville, Laytonsville, Rockville, Barnesville, Gaithersburg, and Washington Grove. The normal Council practice is not to appoint residents of those municipalities to this Board.

Present Board members are: Donna Barron, (Republican); Angelo Caputo, (Republican); Allison Ishihara Fultz (Democrat); Louise Mayer (Democrat), and Donald Spence (Democrat), Chairman. By law, no more than three members of the Board shall be from the same political party. Members of County boards, committees and commissions may not serve on more than one such group at a time.

Letters of application, to serve as Chairman and/or member, including a resume, should be addressed to Council President Steven Silverman and must be received in the Office of the Montgomery County Council, Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850, no later than **5:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 1. It is the Council's policy not to consider applications received after the deadline.** A financial statement of assets, debts, income, and family property interests will be required of all applicants.

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